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FLOOR DEBATE

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LB 536, 620

of these plants reaches the point where the debt is paid off the ones who hold it are going to unload it and get out of it and make, as profit, what they sell it for, and the one who gets it is going to be holding it when the whole bottom falls out. Mark my words.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Wickersham, on the Dierks amendment.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Well, I...I guess I'll support Senator Dierks' amendment because he says that's what he wants, but I'm...but I'm a little bit confused by why we would do this. I'm...I'm assuming that there is some concern that companies might qualify both for the benefits of LB 620 and then, at the same time, receive production credits if...under the ethanol bill if LB 536, is that the right number, passes and is adopted. And I agree that that makes a pretty rich package, but the fact of the matter is, is my clear understanding that companies that produce ethanol would now be eligible for other economic development incentives, what would would sometimes characterize as LB 270, and in some instances LB 775, at least at some levels. Remember, there are different...different kinds of qualifications under LB 775, but it's my understanding that, for example, the wet mill plant at Blair, is that where that thing is, might have qualified for LB 775 credits, and that some of the other kinds of plants might have qualified for LB 775 as well. So I'm...I'm a little bit confused about why Senator Dierks, who is what I take to be a firm supporter of the ethanol industry, wants to take away this opportunity to qualify for even higher levels of benefits, but, as I've indicated, I'm not going to discourage him because I have...I think we have given away too much in many of these programs anyway. So I'm certainly not going to object if somebody wants to limit them. I'm just going to express some confusion about why he is doing it. I'm...my...my understanding and my belief is that Senator Dierks always tries to do what he has promised somebody he will do, so I'm assuming he has a good rationale for this. I'm just a little confused.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Wickersham. Senator Schrock, on the Dierks amendment.